



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Elko District Office
3900 East Idaho Street
Elko, Nevada 89801-0611
<http://www.nv.blm.gov>



In Reply Refer to:
0000/0000 (NV000)
NVN-000000
NV000-EA08-000

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RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

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Dear Chair(man/woman) XX,

Company Name has filed a type of proposal e.g. Operations Plan/ Notice of Intent to conduct geothermal resource exploration operations in geographical location – valley, creek, etc... Nevada. The nearest inhabited town is town name, NV, which lies approximately X miles to the direction, north, south, etc... of the project area. Company Name plans to drill up to X type of wells and type of drilling rig.

Access to the drill sites will be via existing road and the sites themselves will be located immediately adjacent to these roads. The proposed action will disturb approximately X acres. The holes will be X inches in diameter and each will have a total depth of approximately X feet. The specific drill hole locations are shown in the attached map that accompanies this letter.

On May 18, 2001, President George W. Bush signed Executive Order 133212, which directs the Secretary of the Interior to reduce the delays in processing energy related projects with the intent of increasing the domestic supply of energy, including oil and gas and geothermal.

Geothermal leasing is authorized under the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 and 43 CFR 3200. Geothermal leasing/development are recognized and acceptable uses of lands administered by the BLM under the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA).

However, in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act (P.L. 89-665), the National Environmental Policy Act (P.L. 91-190), the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (P. L.94-579), the American Indian Religious Freedom Act (P.L. 95-341), the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (P.L. 101-601) and Executive Order 13007, the BLM must also provide affected tribes an opportunity to comment and consult on the proposed project. BLM

IM-NV-2010-066
Attachment 9-1

must attempt to limit, reduce, or possibly eliminate any negative impacts to Native American traditional, cultural, spiritual sites, activities, and resources. An archaeological inventory has been completed for the specific areas of impact, which has resulted in a XXXXX. Provide a table and summary of sites and NRHP eligibility determinations, and state that avoidance of these resources can be achieved, or state that the inventory did not locate any pre-contact era sites. If a data sharing agreement exists with the Tribe, include a copy of the final report with this letter. Make sure this statement is accurate. If avoidance cannot be accomplished, then streamlined schedule cannot be met.

It is our intent to balance geothermal leasing/exploration with the need to protect other resources such as wildlife, wilderness, archaeology, and tribal resources or other cultural, spiritual, traditional activities or sites. At this phase, Company Name has applied to the BLM for specific locations of exploration and development. Therefore, it is important to the BLM that we have discussions with you, your Council, staff, or community members in identifying any unknown (to BLM) tribal resources or sites of spiritual significance that may be impacted by geothermal exploration. Please contact Tribal Liaison/cultural staff or project lead of my staff, at 775-753-0200, if you have any questions, concerns, or wish to arrange a meeting or field tour with our office.

Sincerely,

XX Field Manager
Non Renewable Resources

Enclosure (maps; and CRM report if data sharing agreement exists with Tribe)

Cc: